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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,058	09/25/2003	Janice Marie Girouard	AUS920030637US1	5828

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EXAMINER

SHAN, APRIL YING

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2135

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/671,058	Applicant(s) GIROUARD ET AL.	
	Examiner April Y. Shan	Art Unit 2135	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 August 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/25/2003</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 have been examined.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 25 September 2003 is being considered by the examiner. However, examiner noticed that the Applicant listed the U.S. Publication No. 2001/0055388 A1 as Other Document. Usually, only Non Patented Literature (NPL) is listed as Other Document. Therefore, please move U.S. Publication No. 2001/0055388 A1 from Other Documents to U.S. Patent Documents in the IDS.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-20 are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - a. As per claim 1, "the separate input" should be "a separate input" in line 10;
 - b. As per claim 8, "the separate input" should be "a separate input" in line 9;
 - c. As per claim 15, "the separate input" should be "a separate input" in line 14;

Any claim not specifically addressed, above, is being objected as incorporating the deficiencies of a claim upon which it depends.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13, 15-17 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Henry et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,996,718).

As per **claims 1 and 8**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system for providing a password to an application, the method/system comprising:

receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with one of a plurality of applications requiring a password (step 500 in fig. 6);

receiving, from a user, a same master password ("a common password 30" in fig. 1 and col. 3, line 7. Please note a common password corresponds to Applicant's a same master password) for access to each of the plurality of applications ("multiple accounts 40, 50, 60 and 70" in fig. 1 and col. 3, line 8. Please note multiple accounts correspond to Applicant's plurality of applications);

applying a hashing algorithm associated with the separate input event to the master password to generate an application specific password (abstract); and

submitting the application specific password to the application for access by the user (abstract, col. 4, lines 32-40).

As per **claims 2 and 9**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 1 and 8. Henry et al. further discloses wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the same master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

retrieving a hash value ("Nr for a random number" – e.g. col. 4, lines 6-7. Please note a random number corresponds to Applicant's hash value) associated with the passkey event ("a random number that is associated with the account and stored at the server" – e.g. col. 4, lines 15-17); and

applying the hash value to at least one character of the same master password to generate at least one hashed character (col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-20. Please note Hash (Ui+Pc+Si+Nr) in col. 3, line 65 corresponds to Applicant's hashed character).

As per **claims 3 and 10**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 2 and 9. Henry et al. further discloses wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving hash value from a user's configuration file (col. 5, lines 29-31).

As per **claims 5 and 12**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 2 and 9. Col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-31 of Henry et al. further discloses

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wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

retrieving a character rule algorithm; and

applying the character rule algorithm to the hashed character to generate a character rule compliant hashed character.

(Please note according to Applicant's specification page 15-16, Applicant's definition on a character rule algorithm is inclusive with the definition of a master rule algorithm. Therefore, the cited reference in Henry et al. met the limitations in claims 5 and 12).

As per **claims 6 and 13**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 3 and 10. Col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-31 of Henry et al. further discloses wherein applying a hashing algorithm associated with the passkey event to the master password to generate an application specific password comprises:

retrieving a master rule algorithm; and

applying the master rule algorithm.

(Please note according to Applicant's specification page 15-16, Applicant's definition on a character rule algorithm is inclusive with the definition of a master rule algorithm. Therefore, the cited reference in Henry et al. met the limitations in claims 6 and 13).

As per **claims 15-17 and 19-20**, Henry et al. discloses the claimed method of steps as applied above in claims 1-3 and 5-6. Therefore, Henry et al. discloses the claimed computer program product embodied in a record medium for carrying out the method of steps.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

8. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

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not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

9. Claims 4, 11 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry et al. as applied to claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13 and 15-20 above, and further in view of Challener et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,085,933)

As per **claims 4 and 11**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system as applied in claims 2 and 9 to retrieve a hash value ("Nr for a random number" – e.g. col. 4, lines 6-7. Please note a random number corresponds to Applicant's hash value) associated with the passkey event ("a random number that is associated with the account and stored at the server" – e.g. col. 4, lines 15-17); and applying the hash value to at least one character of the same master password to generate at least one hashed character (col. 3, line 66 and col. 4, lines 1-20. Please note Hash ($U_i + P_c + S_i + N_r$) in col. 3, line 65 corresponds to Applicant's hashed character).

Henry et al. does not disclose expressly wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register.

Challener et al. discloses wherein retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register (col. 3, lines 1-11).

Henry et al. and Challener et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor system and method for improving computer system security.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Challener et al.'s retrieving a hash value associated with the passkey event comprises retrieving a hash value from a configuration register into Henry et al.'s method/system.

The motivation of doing so would have been "for a computer system to have trusted computing platform capabilities" and "the random data withheld from caching to disk and from exposure by the secure virtual machine", as taught by Challener et al. (col. 2, lines 53-56 and col. 3, lines 1-11)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Challener et al. with Henry et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 4 and 11.

As per **claim 18**, the combined teachings of Henry et al. and Challener et al. disclose the claimed method of step as applied above in claim 4. Therefore, the combined teachings of Henry et al. and Challener et al. discloses the claimed computer program product embodied in a record medium for carrying out the method of steps.

10. Claims 7 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Henry et al. as applied to claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 12-13 and 15-20 above, and further in view of Wu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,085,997)

As per **claims 7 and 14**, Henry et al. discloses a method/system for providing a password to an application receiving from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with one of a plurality of applications requiring a password in step 500 in fig. 6.

Henry et al. does not disclose expressly wherein receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with any given one of the plurality of applications comprises receiving, from a user, an event created by a user's engaging a keyboard key.

Wu et al. discloses wherein receiving, from a user, a passkey event uniquely associated with any given one of the plurality of applications comprises receiving, from a user, an event created by a user's engaging a keyboard key (col. 7, lines 53-61).

Henry et al. and Wu et al. are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor of log into a WEB page requiring a secure log-in.

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate Wu et al.'s using a keyboard key to create an event into Henry et al.'s method/system.

The motivation of doing so would have been for a user/subscriber to "enjoy the advantages of the unique features provided to transparently access and automatically accesses and provides the needed data for log-on", as taught by Wu et al. (col. 7, lines 49-61)

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Wu et al. with Henry et al. to obtain the invention as specified in claims 7 and 14.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. (See PTO-892).

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Contact Information

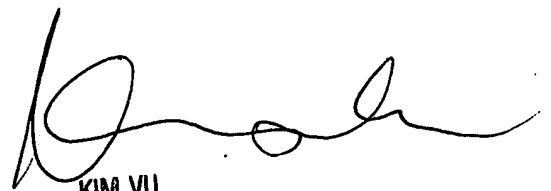
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to April Y. Shan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1014. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached on (571) 272-3859. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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28 November 2006
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